

**For Immediate Release**  
Tuesday, February 28, 2017



**CITY WANTS PUBLIC INPUT ON WATERWAY'S "GO QUIET" BY-LAW**

The City of Welland is looking for public input on the potential of allowing motorized boats on the Welland Recreational Waterway. On the recommendation of the Welland Recreational Canal Corporation (WRCC), a "Go Quiet" By-Law was passed in 2005 by Welland City Council, which prohibits any motorized boats on the Welland Recreational Waterway. Council is encouraging residents and businesses to voice their opinions on this matter during upcoming public meetings. Three public meetings, 90 minutes in length, are scheduled as follows:

- Saturday March 11, 1:00pm at the Welland Community Wellness Complex (145 Lincoln Street)
- Thursday March 16, 7:00pm at the Welland Community Wellness Complex (145 Lincoln Street)
- Tuesday March, 28, 7:00pm at the Welland Community Wellness Complex (145 Lincoln Street)

An online survey will also be available on the city's website beginning Thursday, March 2, 2017. Council and staff want to engage local residents and stakeholders in order to gain a better understanding of community consensus on permitting, or not permitting, motorized boats on the Welland Recreational Waterway. Council has directed staff to review the current 'Go Quiet' by-law and potential alternatives to expand public use of the Recreational Canal Waterway. Presentations from residents or businesses are welcomed at all three public meetings; however, they must be submitted prior to the meeting and must not exceed eight minutes in length.

City Council adopted the "Go Quiet" By-law on July 20, 2005, which placed a ban on all motorized watercrafts, unless granted approval by the WRCC to an organization, association, or corporation.

Some residents have expressed interest in having the city revisit the ban of motorized boats on canal water and having a discussion on other potential use of the waterway. Information collected from all three public meetings and an online survey will be reviewed, and will further assist to shape a staff report.

The city must take all issues and concerns into consideration when it comes to the protection of the waterway. Council and staff recognize the Welland Recreational Waterway is a cherished commodity, and the safety of canal users, protecting the environment, and protection of Welland's water source are essential priorities.

To submit public opinion on this subject, take the online survey at [welland.ca](http://welland.ca), or to make a presentation at one of the public meetings inquire via email to [info@canalcorp.ca](mailto:info@canalcorp.ca).

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